

CONFIDENTIAL  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

189331

25X1A

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 25 April 1948

SUBJECT Unveiling Protests against Sequestrations  
in the Russian Zone

NO. OF PAGES

PLACE ACQUIRED 25X1C

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO 25X1A  
25X1X

SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1A  
REPORT NO.

1. At a meeting of the Antifa Bloc Committee in Berlin on 1 March 1948, Otto Muschke is reported to have expressed the strong opposition of the CDU to renewed sequestrations. Muschke announced that the CDU would withdraw from the Antifa Bloc, the Volkskongress, and the state governments if sequestration did not end. CDU circles hailed this stand as even more courageous than the line adopted by Jacob Kaiser.

25X1A Comment: Sequestrations have not ceased and Muschke has taken no steps to carry out his threats; on the contrary he played a leading role at the Volkskongress, 17-18 March.)

- 25X1X 2. Muschke and Georg Dertinger had a conference with Colonel Tulpanov on 13 March, in which they insisted on a revision of SIA sequestration policy. Tulpanov told them that he was going to see to it that sabotage of industrial progress by capitalist factory owners was stopped once and for all; he said he did not care how many factories would have to be sequestered to accomplish this purpose. Dertinger told source afterwards that he assumed that this means still further sequestrations will follow.

- 25X1X 3. Wilhelm Kuls tried repeatedly but unsuccessfully during February to gain an audience with the SIA to protest against new sequestrations. Kuls then asked Wilhelm Pieck to use his influence in this matter. Pieck promised to do so but actually did nothing. Instead, a special committee under orders from Walter Ulbricht travelled around the Russian Zone engineering FDGB demands for sequestration of all remaining private factories. Hermann Kaetner used his allegedly good connections to protest to SIA Saxony, likewise in vain.

Document No. 009

NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

☐ DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C

DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763

Date: 7/1/77 By: 027

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